

**REMARKS**

In compliance with M.P.E.P. § 713.04, Applicants provide the following remarks.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Interview Summary amply summarizes the issues discussed during the Interview of January 31, 2005.

During the Interview, Applicant argued that each of the cited references of Hersh '791 (U.S. Patent No. 5,667,591) and Hillebrand '500 (U.S. Patent No. 5,296,500) fails to disclose the instantly claimed combination of ingredients. Further, Applicant referred the Examiner to the comments in the Advisory Action of September 1, 2004, at page 2, lines 7-8, wherein the Examiner presented two possible claim amendments to overcome the prior art rejections. Based on the Advisory Action comments, Applicant stated that by adopting one of the suggested amendments in the Reply of November 8, 2004, the prior art rejections have been overcome. Applicant also requested consideration of the scientific references in detail that were submitted with the November 8 Reply, whereby the scientific literature addresses the Examiner's position regarding the compound "selenomethionine."

In response, the Examiner stated that the cited references would have to be reviewed again, and another prior art search may possibly need to be conducted to assess if the claims as currently amended

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overcome all prior art issues. The Examiner also suggested an alternative claim amendment. In response, Applicant requested consideration of the November 8 Reply as sufficiently addressing all outstanding rejections, including those rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

A full and complete response has been made by Applicant in the Reply of November 8, 2004. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits no extensions of time are needed, and further requests that a timely Notice of Allowance issue for the present case.

If any questions remain regarding the above matters, or in efforts to advance prosecution, please contact Applicant's representative, Eugene T. Perez (Reg. No. 48,501), in the Washington metropolitan area at the phone number listed below.

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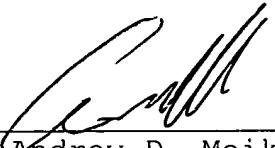
**Substance of Interview**

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By \_\_\_\_\_

  
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